



Centre for adults  
Development and learning

## Utvecklingscentrum – an Arena in Ljusdal, Sweden for lifelong and flexible learning



**Utvecklingscentrum** organises Swedish for immigrants and Ljusdal's adult education programme, from basic, via 16+ to university level. UC's focus is to be a flexible arena for lifelong learning and a computer-training centre for adults. UC is also a local learning centre for the inhabitants of Ljusdal and functions as a link between universities and the student. UC thereby acts as an intermediary in higher education. It also functions as a place for study and a meeting-place for project work, discussions, seminars, etc. during the period of studies.

UC has at its disposal suitable premises, technology and media for distance communication, for example video conferences, computers and access to the Internet.

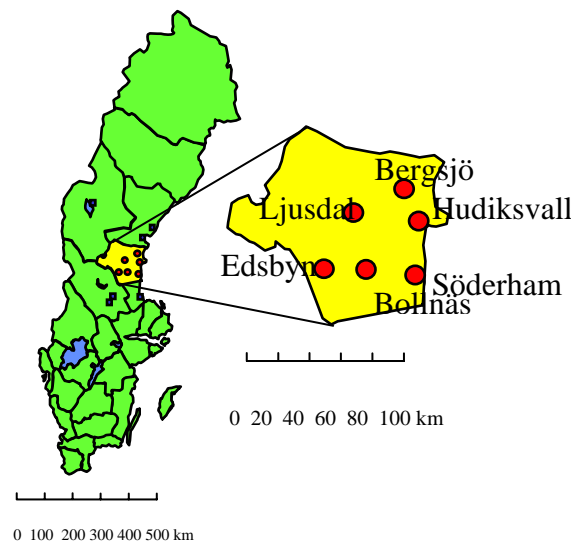


At the centre there are staffs that provide teachers and students with administrative and technical service, and, when necessary, give social support to students. One task is to support and develop the skills profile of the Ljusdal work force reducing the need for people to leave Ljusdal to acquire an education.

UC is situated in the Ljusdal College grounds, allowing a close working relationship with the college. Also situated in the same building are IT and knowledge-based companies under the roof of Ideum Clara Vallis, Ljusdals business development centre. The fundamental idea of Ideum Clara Vallis is to create an environment where people, private companies, public organizations and learning centres can work together to stimulate growth in the area.

## Networks and Projects

UC's active part in several educational networks in the region, nationally as well as internationally, is also one of the answers to how a small town like Ljusdal can offer a broad but high quality education. UC is, though, much more than an educational organization. We run a number of projects: For instance, Ljusdal has developed a new Pre-project management university course in which students in the Ljusdal area are able to study in their own time while still enjoying the benefits of Utvecklingscentrums premises for lectures and study.



## Ljusdal is near everywhere

Ljusdal is an inland community in the province of Hälsingland, with approximately 20.000 inhabitants in the middle of Sweden. Ljusdal is situated 340 km from the capital city, Stockholm. Ljusdal can also offer very beautiful countryside with the river Ljusnan running through the county. Fishing, boating, skating and skiing are very popular pastimes in the area. Ljusdal is, among other things, known for the sport of bandy - similar to field hockey but on ice. Ljusdal has a top-class bandy team and host the World Cup in bandy each year.

The abundance of forests (eighty per cent of the community area) has contributed that many people have a history in the past to earn their living directly in forestry, wood, sawmills and farming. Ljusdal has changed in recent times and industrial activity has decreased. Ljusdal has also a history of entrepreneurial thinking. Over the past decade Ljusdal has become a centre for the call centre industry beginning with the establishment of several companies. This establishment led to a reassessment of the skills requirement for the area and the recruitment policy.

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